



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

Bill Handler: \_\_\_\_\_ District \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Speaker:

**Your Committee on Ethics,**

to which was referred a review of **House Ethics Complaint No. 25-01**, begs leave to report it has examined the same and hereby concludes this matter with the issuance of the accompanying report by the following vote:

Ayes: (10): Roberts, Anderson, Byrnes, Casteel, Gragg, Griffith, Jobe, Smith (74),  
Terry, Young

Noes: (0):

Present: (0)

Absent: (0)

Attached hereto is the report adopted by the committee:

April 2, 2025

The Honorable Justin Sparks  
Missouri House of Representatives  
201 West Capitol Avenue, Room 201-E  
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Re: House Ethics Complaint 25-01

Dear Representative Sparks:

The Committee on Ethics diligently investigated the complaint filed in this matter and found no

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support for the claims made in the complaint. However, by a unanimous vote on April 2, 2025, the Committee determined that you took one to three votes with an apparent conflict of interest. Specifically, the conduct that the Committee based its decision on includes the following:

You supported and voted for during the Fiscal Year 2024 and 2025 appropriations process funds for a grant to support the start-up costs of a childcare facility in St. Louis County. This grant was contained in Section 2.355 of House Bill 2 (2023), Section 2.380 of House Bill 2002 (2024), and Section 14.093 of House Bill 14 (2025).

The National Law Enforcement Foundation (NLEF) applied for the grant in September 2023 and was ultimately awarded the funding for the childcare facility. Furthermore, you were employed by the NLEF from November 2023 to March 2025 as a Regional Representative. Your work for the NLEF involved assisting with the startup and licensing process of the childcare facility, which was and continues to be funded by the state grant.

The Committee notes that you did disclose your employment with the NLEF in 2023 and 2024 on your personal financial disclosures filed with the Missouri Ethics Commission. However, you did not file a written report of a substantial personal or private interest in the appropriation bills with the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives before voting on such legislation. Filing such a written report, as provided for in Section 105.461, RSMo., would have helped prevent the appearance of a conflict of interest and furthered public transparency of the appropriations process.

With the issuance of this letter and public reproof of your conduct, this matter is concluded.



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Chairman